REMARKS

Claims 6-15 and 20-29 are pending. Applicants elect Group II (claims 6-15) for examination on the merits. With regard to the requirement for an election of species, enzymatic treatment is elected. Claims 6-15 and 20-29 read on the elected species. Nonelected claims 1-5 and 16-19 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the nonelected subject matter in a further patent application.

The amendments are fully supported by the original disclosure and, thus, no new matter is added by their entry. Support may be found, inter alia, in the canceled claims and at page 4, lines 7-10, of the specification.

Applicants earnestly solicit an early and favorable examination on the merits. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if any further information is required.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

Bv:

Gary R. Tanigawa Reg. No. 43,180

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor Arlington, VA 22203-1808

Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100